



4. Public Involvement

4.1 Scoping Decision Document

Consistent with the requirements of Minnesota Rule 4410.2100, Subp. 3 (Scoping Period), the public was informed when the Scoping Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW)/Draft Scoping Decision Document (SDD) became available for public review and comment on October 1, 2012. A copy of the document was available by request or could be reviewed at the MSFA Office, the Minneapolis Public Library, or the Legislative Reference Library in St. Paul. A public open house was held October 23, 2012, from 5:00-7:00 pm at the Hubert H. Humphrey Metrodome – Halsey Hall Room. Forty individuals signed in at the meeting. The Scoping EAW/Draft SDD, as well as information presented at the public open house, is also available on the MSFA website (www.msfa.com).

An outreach effort was used to solicit public and agency comments on the Proposed Project during the formal scoping period, which extended from October 1 to October 31, 2012. Meeting announcements were emailed to the Stadium Implementation Committee, 12 surrounding neighborhood organizations, seven downtown business organizations, and 28 agencies and organizations that received the Scoping EAW/Draft SDD. Press releases were also sent on October 1 and October 19, 2012, to approximately 60 reporters and major news outlets. Legal notices were posted in the Star Tribune newspaper and the Finance & Commerce newspaper. The open house materials may be found on the MSFA website (www.msfa.com).

Comments were received in writing by email, US mail, or submittal directly to the MSFA at the public open house. Verbal comments were also received at the public open house and were transcribed by a court reporter. These comments were responded to in the Final SDD, which was published in the *EQB Monitor* and distributed on December 10, 2012.

4.2 Draft Environmental Impact Statement

Throughout the EIS process, the MSFA has been coordinating with various agencies and jurisdictions to ensure proper processes are followed. The ongoing coordination and communication with these organizations provides valuable input and guidance. Coordination has taken place with organizations including the Minnesota Department of Transportation, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, Metropolitan Council/Metro Transit, Hennepin County, City of Minneapolis, and the University of Minnesota.

A notice of the availability of the Draft EIS was published in the *EQB Monitor* on April 29, 2013, and in local media sources. The Draft EIS was circulated for a public comment period running from April 29 to June 6, 2013. In addition, a public meeting was held on May 22, 2013. The Draft EIS was distributed to the Environmental Quality Board (EQB) distribution list and posted on the MSFA website.

Comments received during the Draft EIS comment period have been evaluated in preparing the Final EIS. Copies of these comments and responses to comments received may be found in Chapter 6 Response to Comments on the Draft EIS. Following publication of the Final EIS, the MSFA will determine its adequacy consistent with MEPA, Minn. Stat. Chpt. 116D. Notification of the MSFA's adequacy determination will be published in the *EQB Monitor*, sent to the EQB distribution list, and provided to local media sources.